GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:925
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2007
DEVELOPMENT OF HYDROGEN AS AN ALTERNATIVE FUEL
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Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government proposes to launch a roadmap to promote the use of Hydrogen as an alternative source of fuel for vehicles in the country;

(b)if so, the details thereof alongwith the target fixed for running the vehicles on hydrogen fuel;

(c)whether the Government is contemplating to provide subsidy for the development of hydrogen fuel keeping in view the high cost on its development;

(d)if so, the details thereof; and

(e)the initiatives taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a)&(b): A National Hydrogen Energy Road Map for development of hydrogen energy in India has been prepared under the guidance o f the National Hydrogen Energy Board. The National Hydrogen Energy Road Map has identified research, development, demonstration and other efforts required for bridging the technological gaps in different areas of hydrogen energy, including its production, storage, transportation, delivery, applications, safety, codes and standards and capacity building for the period upto 2020. The National Hydrogen Energy Road Map has also recommended two major initiatives for use of hydrogen as a fuel in vehicles and for power generation. The Road Map has envisaged that about one million hydrogen fuelled vehicles would be on the Indian roads by 2020.

(c)&(d): As the technology for use of hydrogen as a fuel in vehicles is still in the research and development phase, there is no plan at present to provide subsidy for introduction of hydrogen as a fuel in the vehicles.

(e): The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has been supporting a broad based research, development and demonstration progrmme on different aspects of hydrogen energy technologies for over two decades and holding regular interactions with various stakeholders for promotion of hydrogen energy in the country.